

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 21-22 XCSS MEETING

1. TEXT OF ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR OCT. 21-22 XCSS IS TRANSMITTED IN FULL BELOW. RESTRICTED HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 10:30 A.M. XCSS ITSELF WILL BEGIN 3:30 P.M.

2. BEGIN TEXT: AGENDA

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2. ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: FUTURE PRIORITIES - NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (FOR REFERENCE: CES/UN(75)15. CE(75)14

3. WORK OF THE ORGANISATION WITH A VIEW TO THE "DIALOGUE" AND ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION.

4. ORAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES.

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5. ORAL REPORT ON THE STUDY RELATING TO WORLD TRENDS

IN SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR THE CHIEF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

6. OTHER BUSINESS (INCLUDING THE AGENDA AND DATE OF THE NEXT SPECIAL SESSION).

ANNEX -- ANNOTATIONS ON THE AGENDA

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2. ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:
FUTURE PRIORITIES

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST MONTH, THE OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES SUBSCRIBED TO A RESOLUTION ON DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION, WHICH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR THE COMING INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS.

IT WOULD SEEM USEFUL FOR THE COMMITTEE TO ASSESS THE RESULTS OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE SCOPE OF THE COMMITMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.

THE COMMITTEE MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER THE VARIOUS DATES WHICH WILL BE FALLING DUE IN THE INTERNATIONAL TIMETABLE, IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE PRIORITIES AND RETAIN A GENERAL PICTURE OF A DISCUSSION PROCESS WHICH WILL BE PROCEEDING IN VARIOUS FORA.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE (CE(75)14) IS INTENDED TO CLARIFY THE DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE "DIALOGUE" IN THE ORGANISATION WILL BE MORE SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED UNDER ITEM 3.

3. WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION WITH A VIEW TO THE "DIALOGUE" AND ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SESSION

1. THE COMMITTEE WILL BE INFORMED OF THE STAGE REACHED WITH THE WORK IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED IN THE VARIOUS OECD BODIES, ON QUESTIONS LIABLE TO BE THE SUBJECT OF STUDIES BY THE COMMISSIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED AS THE FORA FOR THE "DIALOGUE". THIS INFORMATION, WHICH IS INTENDED TO CLARIFY THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS, WILL BE PROVIDED EITHER BY THE CHAIRMEN OF THE VARIOUS

BODIES CONCERNED, OR FAILING THEM, BY THE SECRETARIAT.

2. THE COMMITTEE MIGHT TAKE STOCK OF THE PROGRESS OF SUCH WORK AND, IN THE LIGHT OF THE COMMITTEE'S OWN CONCLUSIONS, IDENTIFY THE DIRECTIONS IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR IT TO TAKE. WHERE APPROPRIATE, THE

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EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

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COMMITTEE MIGHT GIVE GUIDANCE AS TO PRIORITIES TO BE OBSERVED OR AS TO NEW QUESTIONS REQUIRING STUDY.

THE COMMITTEE MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE QUESTIONS DEALT WITH BY THE VARIOUS GROUPS. SOME OVERLAPPING IN THIS RESPECT IS DOUBTLESS UNAVOIDABLE AND THERE WOULD BE NO POINT IN ENDEAVOURING TO DEFINE THEIR RESPECTIVE SPHERES OF COMPETENCE WITH ABSOLUTE ACCURACY, SINCE THE SAME TOPICS CAN WITH ADVANTAGE BE CONSIDERED FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES.

3. ON A MORE GENERAL PLANE, THE COMMITTEE MIGHT ENQUIRE

INTO THE NEEDS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN PREPARING FOR THE "DIALOGUE", AND THE WAYS IN WHICH THEY COULD BE MET.

A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT SUGGESTS THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE SHOULD MEET THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

- TO SUPPLY MEMBER COUNTRIES WITH ANY STUDIES OR DATA THEY MAY NEED, IN ORDER TO HAVE AN ESSENTIAL MINIMUM OF SHARED VIEWS AS TO THE TERMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN WHICH QUESTIONS ARISE;

- TO PROVIDE, IN LINE WITH THE PROGRESS OF WORK IN THE VARIOUS COMMISSIONS, FOR THE CONSULTATIONS WHICH ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES MAY NEED IN ORDER TO COMPARE THEIR POSITIONS AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO HARMONIZE THEM SO AS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR POSITION IN THE DISCUSSIONS. IN PARTICULAR, IT SHOULD BE MADE POSSIBLE FOR MEMBER COUNTRIES WHICH WILL NOT BE TAKING PART IN THE "DIALOGUE" DISCUSSIONS TO SHARE IN THE PREPARATORY WORK AND TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS;

- TO ENSURE THAT THE SOLUTIONS PROPOSED FOR THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS COVERED BY THE "DIALOGUE" FORM A COHERENT WHOLE.

4. THE BODIES NOW EXISTING WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION (THE IEA - THE TWO HIGH LEVEL GROUPS - THE TEMPORARY WORKING PARTY OF THE EPC) SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO SATISFY THE FIRST TWO OBJECTIVES SET OUT ABOVE. AS REGARDS THE THIRD, IT WOULD SEEM THAT A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FALLS ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION, SINCE IT IS FOR THIS COMMITTEE TO PUT FORWARD AN OVERALL VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS MIGHT BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING:

- THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE AS A FORUM WITHIN WHICH MEMBER COUNTRIES COULD BE INFORMED AT REGULAR INTERVALS OF THE PROGRESS OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE VARIOUS COMMISSIONS, SO AS TO RETAIN AN OVERALL VIEW OF THE PROCEEDINGS;

- THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE AS A BODY WITHIN WHICH THERE COULD BE WORKED OUT THE COMMON AND CONSISTENT VIEWS FOR WHICH A NEED MIGHT BE FELT BEFORE AND DURING THE "DIALOGUE" OR IN THE CONTEXT OF FUTURE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS;

- THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COMMITTEE ASSESSING THE
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IMPACT ON THE WORLD ECONOMY, AND FROM THE STAND-
POINT OF ECONOMIC POLICY, OF THE MEASURES
ENVISAGED.

4. ORAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-
NATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

IT MIGHT BE RECALLED THAT AS A RESULT OF THE
CONCLUSIONS WHICH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN
ABLE TO REACH AT ITS 8TH SPECIAL SESSION WITH REGARD
TO THE ORGANISATION'S WORK ON ISSUES PERTAINING TO
INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ENTERPRISES, A NEW COMMITTEE
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. THIS COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES HAS, ACCORDING
TO ITS MANDATE, TO COME FORWARD BEFORE THE END OF THIS
YEAR WITH RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING ISSUES PERTAINING
TO THE ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES ((I)
IMPROVED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, (II) IMPROVED AND
HARMONISED STATISTICS, (III) UNIFORM STANDARDS OF
BEHAVIOUR APPLICABLE TO THE ENTERPRISES, (IV) INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH POSSIBLE
COMPLAINTS), AND ON THE OTHER HAND, CONCERNING THE

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ORGANISATION OF CONSULTATIONS ON THE ISSUES PERTAINING
TO INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ((I) OFFICIAL INVESTMENT
INCENTIVES OR DISINCENTIVES, (II) NATIONAL TREATMENT
FOR ENTERPRISES UNDER FOREIGN CONTROL).

THIS PREPARATORY WORK WILL HAVE SOON REACHED A
STAGE WHERE IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE THAT THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION TAKE STOCK OF THE RESULTS
OF THE WORK ACHIEVED AND CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-
UP ACTION.

UNDER THIS POINT OF THE AGENDA, THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE WILL HEAR AN ORAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE IME COMMITTEE SETTING OUT THE RESULTS OF WORK
ACHIEVED SO FAR IN THIS FIELD AND WILL HAVE AN OCCASION
TO COMMENT ON ANY OUTSTANDING PROBLEM.

5. REPORT ON THE STUDY CONCERNING TRENDS IN WORLD
SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR MAJOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

THE COMMITTEE WILL RECALL THAT AT ITS INITIATIVE
THE COUNCIL DECIDED ON 2ND APRIL, 1974, THAT A STUDY BE
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UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL OF TRENDS IN WORLD SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF MAJOR
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES OVER THE NEXT 10 TO 15 YEARS.
THE STUDY IS NOW BEING COMPLETED AND THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL WILL MAKE PROPOSALS TO THE COUNCIL ON HOW THE
REPORT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

THIS STUDY EXAMINES THE LIKELY TRENDS OVER THE
NEXT 10 TO 15 YEARS BUT ALSO THE SITUATION WHICH IS
LIKELY TO PREVAIL BETWEEN NOW AND THEN. IT THUS RAISES
A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICY ISSUES WITH WHICH MEMBER
GOVERNMENTS ARE CONFRONTED AT PRESENT IN THE BROAD
AREA OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND WHICH WOULD NECESSI-
TATE IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS. THESE INCLUDE QUESTIONS
RELATED TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION POLICIES OF MEMBER
COUNTRIES; TO THE GROWING INSTABILITY AND UNCERTAINTY
OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY MARKETS AND TO THE NEED TO

ENSURE AN ORDERLY FUNCTIONING OF THESE MARKETS THROUGH APPROPRIATE MEASURES; TO THE NEED OF ASSISTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION; TO THE NEED DURING AN INTERIM BUT RATHER LONG PERIOD OF PROVIDING FOOD AID.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION MIGHT THUS AT A NEXT SESSION HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSING THE WHOLE RANGE OF INTER-RELATED QUESTIONS IN THIS BROAD AREA, BY PUTTING THE EMPHASIS ON THOSE TOPICS ON WHICH A COMMON VIEW OF OECD COUNTRIES IS NECESSARY AND POSSIBLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE AT A WORLDWIDE LEVEL.

UNDER THIS POINT OF THE AGENDA, DELEGATES WILL BE INVITED TO GIVE GUIDANCE AS TO THE PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED FOR EXAMINING THE REPORT AND DISCUSSING POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP. END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OECDP26131
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750349-1200
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751070/aaaackkq.tel
Line Count: 350
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OCTOBER 21-22 XCSS MEETING
TAGS: EGEN, OCON, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006